Azarias.

A

SERMON

Held forth in a

Quakers Meeting,

Immediately after

AMINADAB's Vision.

WITH

A PRAYER for rooting out the *Church* and *University*, and blessing *Tripe* and *Custard*.

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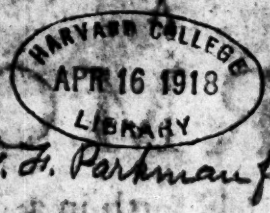

G. F. Parkman fund

A

SERMON

Held forth in a

Quakers Meeting.

Dear Brethren and Loving Sisters,

WE are met and assembled together, and the End and Meaning of our meeting is this, which I shall unfold and explain unto you in a

few Words and as clear a Senſe as the Matter itſelf will bear.

Here is, *my Beloved*, our Brother and Fellow-labourer has gone a little aſtray, in the Opinion of the *Vulgar* and *Prophane*; but how far, I ſay, how far my Brethren, this may be of Conſequence to the Innocent Lambs of our Flock, ſhall be the Subject of my following Diſcourſe. And the Matter, as it ſtands fairly diſcovered and revealed unto us by undeniable Evidence of the Brotherhood, is plainly thus.

Azarias, our dear Brother, who, it is well known, lived in good Fame and Reputation among his Neighbourhood in the Town of *Twittenham*,

ham, which lyeth on the right-hand-ſide of the River of *Thames*, as thou goeſt beyond *Brentford*: Now this Man, our dear Brother, as I told you, being obliged to go, and his Occaſions calling him to *London*, the Man *aroſe, took up his Staff, and walked*; but behold, as he was going over the Green which is called *Turnham-green*, (that Unlucky, Unfortunate, and Scandalous Green) about the North-Eaſt corner thereof, as thou turneſt towards the South, he met with our Siſter *Ruth*, and they twain walked and communed together for ſome time: and as they were communing together, our Siſter *Ruth* caſt ſuch obliging Glances with her commanding Eyes, on the Unfortunate *Aza-*

rias, and ſqueez'd his Hand ſo ſenſibly, that the Snake peeped from out of the Graſs, and our dear Friend *Azarias* was forced to obey the all-commanding Power of the little Unlucky-one; whereupon he ſaid unto her, *Dear Siſter* Ruth, *the Spirit moveth me to lay thee down, that I may fructifie upon thee*; and ſhe anſwered him again, and ſaid *Reſiſt not the Spirit, for from thence proceedeth no Ill.* So he took her and laid her down; and when it came to paſs that ſhe was down, ſhe cover'd her Face, and ſaid, *Whatſoever thou meaneſt wickedly, Azarias, I will not ſee.*

So

So *Azarias* let down his ——— fell with his Face downwards on our Sister *Ruth*, and so followed the Unruly Motions of the Spirit.

Now, my Beloved, in the mean time, while our Brother was exercising his Faculties on our Sister *Ruth*, cometh by one of the *Prophane*, who being moved and seduced by the instigation of the Devil, hath proclaimed and divulged this abroad with scorn and contempt of our Brother, yea also, and of us.

But now, my Brethren, to expound and explain this matter unto you, and that I may shew you how far our Brother may be criminal therein, I shall thus proceed;

The Casuists have a Maxim, and the Maxim is extream good, and so plain and undeniable, that no body can gainsay it; and it is this: *Ubi intentio bona, actio non mala.* Therefore say I, my Beloved, *Quoad actionem* our Brother is criminal. And why? Because it was his Carnal Part, and all Carnality is criminal.

And

And Secondly, as to the Place: It was done publickly, in an open Field, near to the Highway-side, whereby he became a Scorn and Derision unto that prophane Man, and laid a Scandal on the Brotherhood.

But then again, *Quoad intentionem*, the Intent was good, and that appears plainly thus: Our Brother was moved; And how was he moved? Why, with a fair and tempting Object: And when a Temptation proceeds from a fair and pleasing Object which was present, who can withstand it?

But

But then again Secondly, He did not go to it after the ways of the Prophane, who ſay, *G--- damn me, I will do ſo or ſo*; and, *By G-- you ſhall do ſo or ſo*; but he ſaid unto her, *Dear Siſter, the Spirit moves me.*

Which brings me in the next place to the Intent it ſelf, which was not as the Wicked, who do it to ſatisfie the Senſual and Carnal Appetite with a ſort of pleaſing Delight, but to Fructification and Edification of a good Woman; whereby, my Beloved, you may plainly ſee that his Intentions were good, that is, to *Propagation*, *Fructification*, and *Generation*

ration, that he might raiſe up Seed to the Brotherhood, and thereby made that Carnal Part an Agreeable Inſtrument to the continuation of Righteous Seed in the Nation, whereby he hath ſhewn himſelf a fitting Member of this Congregation, and by his forward Inclination hath laid an eternal Obligation upon this Kingdom in general, and the Brotherhood in particular, in giving ſo lively an Example for every ſingular Member thereof.

Good

Good Lord!

BLESS, we beſeech thee, thy *Churches* that are beyond the *Seas*; root out of them all *Anti-Chriſtian Tyranny* of moſt abominable *Biſhops*; let not thoſe *Silk-worms* and *Magpies* have Dominion over us; but give us our true *Primitive Paſtors*, *Lay-Elders*, *Reverend Tanners*, *Religious Basket-makers*, *Upright Coblers*, *Conſcientious Millers*, and more *Conſcientious Taylors*, *Reform'd Weavers*, and *Inſpir'd Broommen*.

Root

Root out of us, Thy *Church*, that *Rag* of *Superſtition*, the *Surplice*; and let not a *Cap* be ſeen among us, with an *Idolatrous Tuff* upon it. The *Apoſtles* were Men *ignorant ſimple*, and ſo are *We*. Demoliſh the *Univerſities*, for they are Nurſeries of vain Learning; *Greek* is a *Heathen Speech*, and *Latine* the Language of the *Beaſt*, and all *Philoſophy* is vain.

Bleſs, we beſeech thee, thy Family, and eſpecially our *Siſters*, that there may never be wanting a fruitful *Generation*, *ſpringing* from the youthful Loins of regenerate *Parents*.

Laſtly,

Laſtly, We come unto thee for a Bleſſing on our *Dinner*: Bleſs this *Tripe*, and this *Loin* of *Veal*, for it was a *Molten-Calf* made *Iſrael* to ſin; this *Capon*, 'twas a *Cock* crowing made *Peter* repent; this *Turky* altho' no *Chriſtian Fowl*, yet thou haſt commanded us to pray for all *Jews*, *Turks*, *Infidels*, and *Hereticks*.

And, altho' we have *Hebrew Roots* enough, yet bleſs theſe *Potatoes*; and this *Cuſtard*, for the Land of *Canaan* flow'd with *Milk* and *Honey*; theſe *Tarts*, for thy *Judgments* are *tart*, unleſs allay'd with the *Sugar* of thy *Mercy*. *Sowſe* us therefore in the *Powdering-Tub* of

of thy Mercy, that we may be *Tripes* fit for thy Heavenly *Table*.

Water us, *young Shrubs*, with the Dew of thy Bleſſing, that we may grow up into tall *Oaks*, and may live to be ſaw'd out into *Deal-Boards*, to wainſcoat thy *New Jeruſalem*.

Finally, let this Dinner improve and nouriſh our Bodies, ſo that we may with Love and Holineſs embrace our Siſters, to the edifying of the Spirit, in raiſing the New Man.

FINIS.

of thy Mercy, that we may be
Heirs of the Heavenly Life.

Grant us, O Lord, with
the Power of thy Holiness, that we
may grow up into thee, and
may live to the Glory of our Holy
Saviour, to whom with thy Holy Spi-
rit, &c.

Finally, let this Prayer be
said, wherein our Bodies, as that
we may with Love and Holiness
embrace our Saviour, to the Glo-
ry of the Spirit, in the
Glory Man.